

PRIORITY OF THE B.Y."

or System the
 Every Sale.

BRADFORD, ME.
 No. 1, Cream Separator, pur-
 your agent, F. H. Skinner, is giving
 yielding me 10 lbs. butter each week
 could possibly get from deep setting
 WILL P. BRALEY.

Its Cost Each Year in Surplus
 hat is Possible With Any
 Separator or System.

LUDLOW, MASS.
 the cream business in June, 1897,
 United States machine, but was very
 over and with the same. After looking
 and giving several a thorough
 the Delaval was the best to be had,
 December 1, 1897, and like it very
 extra cream alone will pay for the
 a little while. I consider it would
 who happens to have a United
 to lay it aside, as I did, and buy
 F. L. RYDER.

on Trial With Any Re-
 sponsible Party.

could know more about the
 y," address nearest De
 Laval agent, or

ROSELEY & STODDARD MFG.
 CO., RUTLAND, VT.

BUCKEYE
 FOR

1899

ey than any other mower on

one WORCESTER BUCK-
 ASS.

cast in or stamped on all
 are genuine.

ine.
 satisfy everybody—are made

the standard tedder of the

ED BY...

G CO., WORCESTER, MASS.

at \$15 for the best. Potatoes are

coming up well at 75c for old stock,
 20c for new potatoes, and 50c for

In country produce butter is firmer
 to the drought), with creameries

higher; cheese steady; eggs firm at
 beans are a trifle firmer. Lamba

quoted firm. Beef quiet and easier.
 Cattle—

BUTTER—17@19c for choice family;
 20c for extra.

EYES—Maine pea, \$1.40@1.45; Yel-
 Eyes, \$1.35@1.40.

BUTTER—Maine and Vermont Factory;
 21c; N. Y. Factory, 10c@11c;

12@12½c; new cheese, 12½c.
 COUNTRY—Low grades, \$2.85@3.00;

3c, \$3.70@3.85; Roller Michigan, \$4.20
 4c; St. Louis Winter Potatoes, \$4.20

4c. C—Cod, Shore, \$4.50@4.75; Scaled
 per box, 9c@10c.

C—Corn, bag lots, 44@45c; oats,
 30c; cottonseed, car lots, 22c 00;

seed, bag lots, \$2.10@2.15; sacked
 car lots, \$1.00@1.10; 50c; sacked

bag lots, \$1.00@1.10; middlings,
 40c.

C—Per tierce, 6½@6¾c per lb.;
 6½@6¾c. Pure lard, 8½@8¾c.

POTATOES—Potatoes, 6½@7c per bu.
 OVATIONS—Fowl, 11@14c; chickens,

5c; turkeys, 14@15c; eggs, nearby,
 7c; 7c; pork hams, \$12.50;

\$12.50; hams, 9½@10½c.

HAY, GRAIN AND WOOL
 MARKET.

The Boston board of health are on the

right track in looking after the purity of

the milk supply of that city. The peo-
 are entitled to sound and healthful

milk. The board of health have this
 taken a common-sense course to get

the matter. It is required that no
 shall be sold nor distributed in this

city unless the cows from which it is de-
 have, within one year, been ex-

The Maine Farmer

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Vol. LXVII.

Maine Farmer.

Z. A. GILBERT, Agricultural Editor.

The Farmer is indebted to Hon. F. D.

secretary of the Kansas Board

Agriculture, for the very fine Merino

presented in this issue. They are

worth a study by all sheep growers.

The Plectraquis Observer of June 8,

acknowledges the receipt a few days pre-

of twenty-two varieties of apples

Dr. H. A. Robinson of Dover. The

were from the Doctor's cellar,

were in perfect condition.

F. Powell of New York recom-

mends spraying stables and manure piles

with kerosene to destroy flies and their

eggs. He advises use of the emulsion.

Kerosene is fast becoming

popular fungicide and insecticide.

The crusade of the weeds has been an

one this far this season. But the

will come sometime, and there is

time for the dormant seed to spring

life and get in a good season's work if

they are not destroyed later on. The

quality for weed killing is only de-

manded to a later date.

Some one has said, in fruit culture

that your theories should, but hold fast

your facts. This injunction might

find an application to other depart-

ments of the farm as well as to the cul-

ture of fruit. Even scientific investiga-

tions have found it necessary at times to

make their theories to make room for

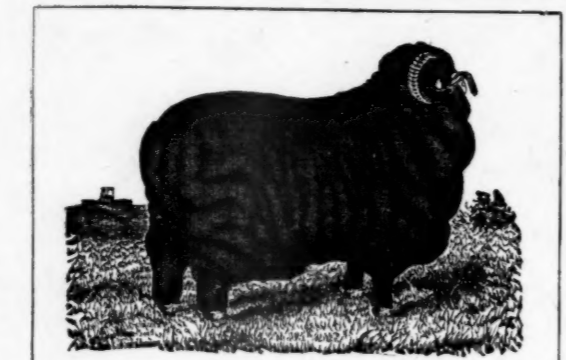
facts. It is a significant fact that the Bald-

win apple will be a failure this year in

the East. It's almost total failure in

the State is well known. The crop

from the board of agriculture of



A Kansas-bred Merino sheep with a shearing
 record never equaled, thus:
 At ten months ten days..... 21 lbs.
 " two years..... 31 "
 " three years..... 38 "
 " four years..... 44 "
 " five years..... 44 "
 " six years..... 44 "
 " seven years..... 44 "
 " eight years..... 35 "
 301½ lbs.

THE LAW AGAINST THE SALE OF OLEO.

New Hampshire is on the war path.
 The state board of agriculture has issued
 a circular which is addressed to all
 creameries in that state, calling atten-
 tion to the fact that the recent legisla-
 ture directed the board of agriculture to
 enforce the law regulating the sale and
 use of imitation dairy products; and it
 announces that the board is now organ-
 izing a vigorous campaign for the en-
 forcement of the law. It desires the
 sentiment of the dairymen of the state,
 and calls upon the creameries to be re-
 presented by their superintendents or other
 authorized delegate at the office of the
 board of agriculture, June 20th, to dis-
 cuss the matter. It ventures the predic-
 tion that more than a hundred thousand
 dollars is lost annually in that state to
 the milk producers from the fraudulent
 sale and use of imitation dairy products
 masquerading as butter. The farmers
 of the state, it claims, should unite and
 demand the rigid enforcement of the
 law of the state regulating the matter.

Would it not be a healthy thing to do
 to inaugurate an active campaign against
 the violation of this law in our state?
 So far as appears the law has lain a dead
 letter on our statutes since its enact-
 ment. Here is some work in which our
 board of agriculture might more properly
 render itself useful to the interest it
 is supposed to serve than by expending
 its means in attempted defence of its
 secretary in extravagant and improper
 expenditures.

TO KILL TREE STUMPS.

Here is something worth knowing.
 In many cases it is a long and tedious
 process to finally kill outright the
 stumps and roots of trees that it is de-
 sirable to destroy. A correspondent of
 the Country Gentleman tells how to
 promptly get rid of these undesirable
 trees:

"For the last 25 years I have applied
 common fine salt to every stump of tree
 or shrub as soon as cut that I wish to de-
 stroy, without a failure. My first ex-
 perience was with albanus and lilacs;
 next was 12 acres of land covered with
 a second growth of all the varieties of
 the northern oaks and hickory, soft
 maple, white thorn and mountain wil-
 low, using 12 barrels of salt. I have
 also applied it to the stumps of Lombardy
 poplar, which is very tenacious of life,
 and I have not a failure to report. I
 apply about one-half teaspoonful to a
 small shrub and a half peck on a stump
 measuring two feet in diameter, varying
 according to size. I recommend late
 summer or early fall as the best season
 for cutting and salting, for the reason
 that the downward flow of sap at that
 season will carry the dissolved salt,
 which is poison to all tree growth, to the
 extremity of the out-reaching roots."

THE STATE CATTLE COMMISSION.

The substitution of a new appointee
 on the board of state cattle commis-
 sioners in our state necessarily places the
 board in an attitude modified in a mea-
 sure from the methods through which it
 has been doing its work in the years
 since its organization under the present
 law. As now constituted, there is in
 conformity with the letter of the law
 as framed, and also, it is said, with the
 intent of those stockmen and farmers
 who drafted it. The wording of the law
 provides that the commission shall be
 made up of "three persons of known ex-
 ecutive ability." Thus it might, or might
 not, have a professional veterinarian as
 one of the number. The framers of the
 law had in mind at the time that the
 members should be men thoroughly con-
 versant with stock matters, and identi-
 fied with its interests and the matter of
 professional service, when needed, could
 be otherwise provided. In making up
 the appointments at the time, the Gov-
 ernor saw fit to place a veterinarian on
 the board, and the commission has been
 so made up to the present time.

To a person unfamiliar with the situa-

tion and the duties of the commission, it
 appears a sensible view to take, if not an
 actual necessity, to have a veterinarian
 on the board. A veterinarian on the
 board, and paid by the State, naturally
 gets substantially all the practice coming
 under the provisions of the law, while
 the members of the profession outside
 are deprived of the practice that other-
 wise would fall into their hands. In a
 state so broad as ours, this discrimina-
 tion may work a measure of injustice to
 the profession.

On the contrary, the cattle commission,
 as now made up, are at liberty to employ
 the professional aid nearest at hand. A
 case in the eastern part of the state will
 call for an eastern veterinarian; in the
 western portion, one from that section,
 and so on. While this will distribute the
 patronage, as it ought, it should be
 at least cost than under the former re-
 quirements, because of the saving in
 actual expenses. The present status of
 the commission will be found satisfac-
 tory to the stock growers of the state.

It is entirely safe to leave the question
 of the presence of menacing diseases
 among stock in the hands of the commis-
 sion. We shall look for a careful,
 safe, efficient and conservative man-
 agement of these matters. This is just what
 the farmers of our state ask for. It is
 what prompted them to the active in-
 terest taken in the personnel of the com-
 mission at this time. So, though a dif-
 ference of opinion may have existed over
 the appointments, we have no doubt the
 stockmen will be well served and the in-
 terests of the public faithfully guarded.

ANOTHER GOOD HERD.

In view of the unjust setting in which
 Maine dairying has unfortunately been
 placed of late, by the publication of frag-
 mentary statistics, only misleading in
 their effect, we take pleasure in record-
 ing the authoritative returns of herds of
 cows as found at our Maine creameries.

Mr. C. T. Burgess of Union, with a
 herd of 10 Maine State Jersey cows, pure
 bred and graded, in the year ending with
 December, 1898, made the following
 record at the Union creamery, operated
 by Mr. E. E. Light. Four of the herd
 were heifers with first calf, and coming
 fresh in the fall did not enter upon the
 record of the milk of milk had passed. The
 following are the pounds of milk given in
 the year by each cow, and the credit for
 butter as shown by the Babcock test and
 paid for by Mr. Light:

| Cow No. | Lbs. milk. | Lbs. butter. |
|---------|------------|--------------|
| 1 | 5,711 | 324 |
| 2 | 4,987 | 260 |
| 3 | 4,467 | 309 |
| 4 | 4,101 | 271 |
| 5 | 4,087 | 290 |
| 6 | 3,271 | 339 |
| 7 | 4,466 | 339 |
| 8 | 4,960 | 303 |
| 9 | 3,858 | 368 |
| 10 | 5,938 | 387 |
| Average | 5,227 | 322 |

These cows run at pasture through the
 summer without grain feed. This is a
 most excellent showing, and goes to
 prove the creditable work being done by
 our Maine dairies. But Mr. Burgess be-
 lieves in progress, and is taking the right
 steps to have still better stock in the fu-
 ture. He has lately purchased from

AN IMPLEMENT FOR EVERY FARMER.



Weed Cutter invented by Mr. H. G. Abbott, Vassalboro, Maine.

Hood Farm, Lowell, and taken to his
 farm a two years' bull of Combination,
 Signal and Stoke Pugin breeding. Also
 a heifer, sired by Brown Bessie's Son.
 With such cows to breed from and such
 blood to couple with them, there can be
 no question as to results. This is a sam-
 ple of the work that is going on all up
 and down our state, and few people are
 aware how much of it. Send along the
 records and the Farmer will be pleased
 to give them to the public.

IT'S THE COW NOT THE BREED.

From Mr. C. S. Bacon, West Paris, is
 the fortunate of a grade Swiss cow, equal
 to almost any animal, when measured by
 his ability to produce. She is four years
 old, dropped her calf April 10th and her
 feed for the time indicated below was
 meadow hay and 4 quarts of middlings
 daily in two feeds. She was turned to
 pasture May 10th and the record is for
 27 days, commencing April 18th, at
 night and ending May 15th in the morn-
 ing. The figures below represent the
 pounds of milk per day:

| |
|--|
| 29½, 28½, 28, 25½, 26, 24, 25½, 26½, |
| 26, 26½, 27, 27½, 27½, 29, 30½, 29, 28½, |
| 29, 29, 29½, 29½, 32½, 31½, 30, 32, 33½, |
| 35. |

Total for 27 consecutive days,
 773½ lbs.; No. of pounds of butter in
 3 consecutive days, commencing April
 18th, 12½.



BABY LORD, the Kansas-bred Merino whose fleece of 12 months and 16 days' growth weighed 53 pounds, surpassing the world's highest record by 7 1-2 pounds, or nearly 17 per cent.

SHEEP.

One of the certain tax payers of
 Maine has always been the sheep, and
 no one believes the time will ever come
 when a profit cannot be realized from
 them. Formerly Maine was well sup-
 plied with the Merinos, but during late
 years attention has been directed to
 meat-making and a larger animal sought.
 Whether this has been the wisest policy
 the breeders alone can determine.

Meeting a large wool grower a few
 days ago he made the very suggestive re-
 mark that "I don't know but I am
 getting as much out of my wool product
 in proportion to cost of production as
 ever. I have just sold for eighteen
 cents a pound, but the fleece has been
 so increased by selection and breeding
 that the cash yield per head is about the
 same as when price per pound was
 higher." This from a life-long breeder
 seemed to us significant. Sec'y Coburn
 of the Kansas Board of Agriculture, to
 whom we are indebted for these fine
 illustrations, writes thus truly of this
 friend of the farmer:

"No useful animal of record antedates
 the sheep. No animal has a wider habi-
 tat, or an object of solicitude care-taking,
 Abel, an heir of Eden and son of its
 first occupants, was a keeper of sheep.
 Early Jewish history is the story of a
 shepherd; their flocks constituted the
 wealth and largely the cares of the
 Hebrew patriarchs down through the
 centuries. Abraham was a great flock
 owner; Rachel, the mother of Joseph,
 tended her father's flocks, and Joseph
 was caring for Jacob's sheep when stolen
 and sold into Egypt; Job was owner of
 fourteen thousand sheep; Moses herded
 the flocks of Jethro, his father-in-law,
 and David, the great king of the Jews,
 was keeping his father's sheep when
 called to public life. It was the shep-
 herds watching by night on Judea's
 plains to whom were first vouchsafed the
 good tidings of great joy, declaring a
 Savior born unto the world—the "Lamb
 of God," the "Good Shepherd."

Their propagation, care and improve-
 ment have played a large part in the
 best husbandry of all lands from time
 immemorial. Common to every coun-
 try, they have adapted themselves to
 every condition. Existence on Green-
 land's frozen mountains, they are at
 home on Sahara and the scorched lan-
 guages of the Orinoco as well. Hungry, rest-
 less and gaunt on Switzerland's bleakest

Alps, they represent one extreme of
 sheep existence; on the plains of Kansas
 and their affluence of grain and grass
 attaining a development nowhere else
 discovered possible, they represent the
 other.

Their flesh is both a staple and a deli-
 cacy wherever civilization exists; appet-
 itizing and healthful nourishment to the
 languishing invalid and strength-renew-
 ing to those whose toll and burden are
 heaviest. From their wool have been
 clothed the armies of dominant nations
 in all times; by spindle, loom and needle
 it is fashioned to meet a wider range of
 requirements for the bodily comfort of
 humankind than any other fiber, animal
 or vegetable; infancy and age, the weak-
 est and the strongest, opulence and indig-
 ence, rely upon it for comfort, service,
 adornment, and surest protection from
 summer's heat and winter's cold. The
 sheep's skins are through a thousand
 channels a large factor in manufactures,
 arts, and commerce."

Maine, as well as Kansas, is peculiarly
 adapted to the great increase of the
 flocks, and while our long winters de-
 mand feeding and care by the growers
 the nearness to good markets comen-
 sates largely for the same. What is
 wanted is a multiplication of the sheep
 on the farms of Maine, not by scores but
 hundreds and thousands, the animals to
 be selected with sole reference to their

ability to yield profit. For this reason a
 study of representative animals of dif-
 ferent breeds becomes a necessity and an
 object lesson like the one presented at
 this time, of great value.

GOOD PRICES FOR JERSEY CATTLE.

About 600 persons attended the
 closing sale of T. S. Cooper's well-
 known herd of Jersey cattle, at Linden
 Grove, Coopersburg, Pa., on Decoration
 Day, under the auction hammer of Peter
 C. Kellogg of New York.

It is several years since a sale of any
 breed of dairy cattle in like number has
 made as good prices, the average straight
 through, including young calves, being
 \$212.32 on 95 head. The highest price
 was \$1,100, paid by the estate of A. B.
 Darling, for the eight-year-old bull Pedro
 Royal Marjoram, a son of Pedro, who in
 turn was a son of the great cow Eurotas,
 —the year-around champion butter cow
 of her day,—that in past years was a
 central figure of Mr. Darling's herd, in
 which great pains is still taken to con-
 serve her blood. An advance of \$500
 was offered for this bull after the sale
 was over and declined.

The highest price paid for a cow was
 \$825, paid by Elmer A. Darling, presi-
 dent of the American Jersey Cattle
 Club, for Pedro's Handsome Dolly, a
 two-year-old heifer in milk, and a model
 in beauty and dairy points, though a
 trifle small. Henry E. Alvord of the
 Bureau of Animal Industry, Depart-
 ment of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.,
 as agent for a California breeder, bid off
 the two-year-old bull Peter Cooper's
 Pedro, for \$800. Biltmore Farms, the
 North Carolina estate of George Vander-
 bilt, claimed on an option of \$800 the
 three-year-old bull General Marigold,
 which they had leased for the past year,
 and probably did better than to have
 taken auction chances on him, as his
 heifers were much liked. Biltmore Farm
 purchased several other animals, and bid
 well up on Pedro's Handsome Dolly.

BALING CLOVER HAY FOR THE FIELD.

C. B. Smith, an enterprising young
 farmer and breeder of Hereford cattle
 near Fayette, Mo., has adopted a new
 method of saving clover hay that has
 proven very satisfactory for two seasons,
 and is such a saving of time and labor
 that it would be well for the Farmer
 readers to give it a trial this season and
 report results. Mr. Smith cuts the
 clover in the morning after it is entirely
 free from dew or rain. When well
 wilted he runs the hay tedder, giving it
 all possible chance to cure. Early in the
 afternoon he begins baling the hay and
 hauling it to the barn, baling all that
 was cut in the forenoon and repeating
 the operation each day until the crop is
 secured. Mr. Smith tells us that the
 hay comes out bright and sweet, and all
 of the same good quality. If any of our
 readers have tried this way of handling
 clover hay we should be glad to have
 them tell us if the result was as satisfac-
 tory as with Mr. Smith. This opens up,
 too, the whole subject of curing and sav-
 ing the hay crop, a subject of great
 importance and one that is just now on
 the tapis. Suggestions as to when to cut
 clover and grasses to secure the most
 and best hay, how much to cure before
 mowing or stacking, whether to put in
 large or small stacks, whether or not
 hay barns will pay, whether or not there
 is spontaneous combustion from stack-
 ing or mowing hay too green and on
 other points connected with the subject
 of hay harvest, will always be of value
 to our readers. Now is a good time to
 have an experience meeting and discuss
 methods.

STRAWBERRIES.

By the way, where is the annual prize
 strawberry exhibition of our State Pom-
 ological Society? We have heard nothing
 of it this season though now almost
 the time for the ripened fruit. We trust
 the new management of this society
 does not ignore the value and importance
 of so delicious a fruit as the strawberry.
 There is nothing that will more incite a
 demand on the part of the people for the
 fruit than the sight of choice samples,
 and nothing that will so encourage the
 extension of its production as displaying
 it for examination in its best estate.
 With the attention this best of all fruit
 is receiving elsewhere by kindred soci-
 eties, and the estimate in which it is
 now held by our people, it appears an
 oversight on the part of our Pomological
 society to let the occasion go by without
 notice. True, lecturers can talk straw-
 berries in winter, but a dish of prize

Marshals or Clydes is a speaking picture
 more eloquent than frigid words in zero
 weather. The Connecticut Pomological
 Society held a field meeting last week on
 one of the noted strawberry farms in
 that state. No state needs the influence
 that goes out from such a meeting more
 than ours. How better can our society
 spend a measure of its efforts than in
 encouraging strawberry culture?

WOOD ASHES FOR STRAWBERRIES.

On most land the application of wood
 ashes to the strawberry bed is a great
 help, and they can be applied a few at a
 time as they accumulate at the house.
 They improve the condition of a heavy
 soil, lightening it, and are also a desir-
 able addition to sandy soils. The regular
 rule on large beds is 25 bushels to the
 acre spread between the rows, being care-
 ful not to let it touch the leaves, as it
 burns them badly. The best time to ap-
 ply it to the beds is early in spring, as
 the pores of the ground are then opened
 by the frost and in good condition to
 take it in,

Maine Farmer.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 1899.

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OF THE EAST.

The Maine Farmer one year and either of the following desirable premiums for only one year's subscription—

The New York Tribune.

One year's subscription, 52 numbers.
Standard Atlas of the World.

Sixteen pages, with marginal notes, printed in colors and bound; size 15x22 inches.

Mrs. Lincoln's New England Cook Book.

200 pages. (Selling price 50c.)

"Samantha Among the Brethren."

The best book by this noted author, 232 pages.

Butter Mold.

Bradford's Creamery, 4-print. (Selling price 85c.)

Egg Case.

Six dozen capacity. (Selling price \$1.00.)

Cyclopedia of Useful Knowledge.

One set, 5 volumes, 1286 pages.

Pen-Knife.

Ivory handle, two blades. An elegant article.

Jack-Knife.

Two blades, strongly made. Size handy for use and convenient to carry in the pocket.

New York World, Tri-Weekly.

104 numbers of this metropolitan publication for only 50c above the regular price of the Farmer one year in advance.

Sample Copy sent on application.

Try the Maine Farmer for one month.

Who wants to move out West where the people rush for the cellars every time a cloud shows itself, yet that is the way they preserve life in Nebraska.

The Farmer was pleased a few days ago to receive a call from its old friend Mr. E. W. Peaslee, Jefferson, one of the active business men of that section.

The party advertising for a farm in another column is prepared to purchase when he finds what suits him, a good farm in a pleasant location, in or near a village.

Some one recommends bee stings for rheumatism. Every one who has involuntarily tried the remedy knows that for a few minutes it lingers up the joints wonderfully.—*Lowell Weekly Journal.* Have you tried them, Bro. Marden?

The settlement between Rigby managers and the New England Society settles the question of a fair this year and probably decides the question of premiums to be paid the winners of 1898. It is now said that the N. E. Society may go to Old Orchard for its fair.

Before the last issue of the Farmer reached our readers a change had come over the entire state. The heavy shower Wednesday afternoon which swept across central Maine was followed by a gentle rain which covered nearly all of New England bringing refreshment to man, beast and growing crops, and materially changing the outlook.

When any domestic animal is so "thoroughly bred" in the lines of its own type as to have passed the danger of reversion to some other type, it is properly designated "thoroughbred." This is not restricted to horses, but applies to all varieties of domestic animals and birds. The point at which the danger of reversion to an undesirable type has been fixed, by long and tested experience, is five or six generations of uncontaminated ancestors, yet the experienced breeder has found the law of reversion a potent factor much longer.

Here is the quality of a man which makes every other American citizen proud to claim kinship: Admiral Dewey has called a friend in Washington that he will under no conditions accept the house that the American people are preparing to present him. He will, how-

ever, take the money raised, if he is allowed to, and invest it in a home for sick and disabled sailors. It is understood that the committee that have charge of the fund will willingly accede to the Admiral's wishes, and permit him to buy and furnish a sailors' home. The closer our acquaintance with Dewey the greater he becomes.

We have but a faint conception of the important part Aroostook is to play in the future of Maine's industrial growth. Only a small portion has been opened up for improvement. Some idea of the amount of money distributed in the county for potatoes alone may be had from the fact that about 3,250,000 bushels were shipped from Aug. 1, 1898, to June 1, 1899, at an average price of at least 47 cents a bushel. In addition to this, about 7,000 tons of starch were made, consuming about 1,000,000 bushels of potatoes, the average price paid for them being about 15 cents a bushel. When wheat growing, sheep, the dairy and beef are developed alongside of potatoes, Aroostook will be the farmers' Mecca.

Prof. W. M. Munson of the University of Maine, cautions people who are using bands of cloth saturated with lard and sulphur about fruit and ornamental trees to prevent the ascent of the forest tree caterpillar. He says that a strip of tarred paper should be placed upon the tree over which the band of cloth may be placed. When put directly upon the tree the lard is very injurious to the bark. The strip need not be more than two inches wide, as a strip of that width is as effective as that usually applied, which is often four or five inches wide. The cloth should be saturated with a preparation of lard and sulphur, equal parts. He says it will be necessary to continue this treatment about ten days longer. The indications are that many trees will be lost because of the careless use of oil, lard and other forms of grease.

The Bath Enterprise has been investigating the subject of ministers, touched upon in a communication in another column, and says: "In conversation with a man recently the subject of ministers was brought up. He said 'Preaching is a trade, the larger class of the ministers of today have turned their minds that way because the life was comparatively easy, genteel, and the most of them well paid. Look at the most of them, able bodied, well developed, and yet without the ambition to do any real hard work,' and he added, 'what do they preach from their pulpits?' Mostly they are finding fault with the religious doctrine of some sister church. They seldom preach as it should be preached in these days, morality, and teach the way a person should live to reach the goal we all hope to reach." We thought over what he had said, and came to the conclusion that if the man should undertake the duties of a minister, he would find the work more exacting, difficult and wearisome than he seems to be aware of."

THE FARMER'S MOVEMENT.

Just at the present time the political press is devoting considerable attention to advising the farmers as to what they might and might not, should and should not do. As an agricultural paper the Farmer regrets the tendency to a class movement while in full sympathy with the principles. Economy should not attach to farmers alone, retrenchment should not be urged as specially applicable to them. The demands which the farmers of Maine are to make for wiser economy, a reduction of expenditures, and a saving of the money raised from the people, as well as an equalization of burdens, according to property holdings, are so eminently just that they cannot be called in question. At the same time every mechanic, every laborer, every business and professional man, every politician, as well as every farmer, is alike interested, must be in sympathy with the demand, and for this reason the movement which originated with the farmers may well be the rallying cry of the people. Business success demands economy and the perpetuity of parties rests upon their allegiance to the best interests of the public. No party can succeed in power which neglects the wants of the great majority. At the same time a declaration of principles never brought reform. Those who essay to lead have a work to do.

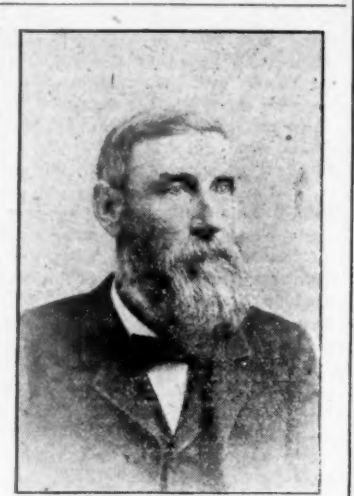
The greatest obstacle in the way of results from a farmer's standpoint lies in the policy prevailing in rural sections of sending a fresh man to the legislature each term.

If the cities have undue influence it is simply because the rural sections fail to send tried and experienced men. It requires nearly the whole of one term to become familiar with the machinery of legislation and surely to know the members and their individual interests. A new man seeking aid for some project of value to his constituents seizes at once the strongest lever to lift his bill into prominence, and pledges support to other measures in return for influence. Having no hold upon the body by reason of acquaintance he is obliged to resort to other expedients. The remedy must be sought in a change in classification. Maine's influence in Congress is everywhere admitted to be because of this self-same reason. We have kept our representatives and senators until Maine has exerted a greater influence than any other state. If a movement looking to equalization and retrenchment is to prevail the majority of members elect of the next legislature must not only be pledged to secure the same but acquainted with the steps to be taken. The evil of large appropriations cannot be charged upon any class or section. It has grown out of combinations made to secure local or individual interests, and is to be remedied only by setting these one side and legislating only for the good of the whole.

Gen. Thomas W. Hyde of Bath, the well known ship builder, lies dangerously ill at the Auditorium Annex, Chicago. The latest reports are that he is somewhat relieved though still in a serious condition.

AN OLD FRIEND GONE.

The stock interests of Maine lose their foremost champion by the death of Hon. A. J. Libby, which occurred Friday afternoon, after a short illness at his home in Embden. All through the years his intense love for the white faces of the Herefords and his keen appreciation of fine form have combined to strengthen



HON. A. J. LIBBY, EMBDEN, ME.

the beef interests of the whole state. For many years that section of Somerset county in which he lived has furnished more than 65 per cent. of the cattle and sheep exhibited at the Maine State Fairs and no one can doubt the influence of this noted friend of the steers in actuating others to grow more and better cattle. Intimately associated with him for a long time there has been deepening all the while the conviction of his sterling integrity, his unswerving loyalty and his devotion to the agricultural interests of the state. Early and late he defended our stock industry, and as he defended the Maine State Fair, his official of the Maine State Fair, his voice and vote have ever been given for what would strengthen love in, and desire for, larger herds and flocks and better stock. The life work and example of this thorough going farmer and breeder will long remain to stimulate others.

In his public service as president of the bank at Oakland and representative in the legislature the same conservative spirit has been manifested and the farms of Maine have ever found in him a friend and champion. Naturally reserved in manner, never seeking notoriety, his persistent labors have brought their reward in wide acquaintance and sincere appreciation of his sterling qualities. Those who knew him best will miss him most.

THE EVIL OF TRUSTS.

Some startling figures.

No law can be framed which will prevent one man from purchasing of different parties ten, twenty or one hundred factories in one or many towns doing the same kind of business. Neither can he be stopped from selling in a lump to a corporation, for all this is legitimate business. The evil creeps in as soon as one corporation owns a number of such factories begins to regulate the output and drive out competition. Here is the evil of trusts, and the difficulty in controlling or preventing lies in the fact that the purchase and control of mills or manufacturing is a simple, straightforward business.

States may legislate in regard to incorporating corporations, limiting the capital stock, but to that limit there can be no legal restraint, until a violation of law or principle of justice is recognized. At the same time there is the certainty that unless watched and checked the evil of oppression will surely be felt. So certain is this that all political parties are pronouncing against trusts in the resolutions of the conventions being held, the nature of these indicating that there is purpose behind to prevent the unholy grasp certain to follow if not checked.

The extent of the growth of these combinations is beyond comprehension, and the following figures only suggest the tremendous power centralizing in the hands of the few, the influence of which cannot be imagined.

During the year 1898, trusts were formed with an avowed capital of \$1,200,000,000, and from January 1899 to March, two months, almost \$1,000,000,000 more. No human mind can grasp the significance of these figures which in their magnitude appall. That there are largely fictitious values only renders the evil the greater. Worse than all is the protection thrown around some of these trusts under the plea of "infant industries." The New England Grocer says: "The tin-plate trust has been incorporated with a capital of \$50,000,000, absorbing plants which competent authorities say cost considerably under \$20,000,000. On an output of about 8,000,000 boxes of plates they claim to have made last year over \$2,000,000, being over 10 per cent. on their investment. Now by the excessive tariff imposed of one and one-half cents per pound (\$1.10 per box on tinning plates) they propose to force up prices so they can pay a good dividend upon the \$50,000,000 and more of stock that represents nothing, thus virtually laying a tribute upon the American people of \$50,000,000 to put in their private purses as effectively as if it was done at the point of the bayonet by an armed force. Since the first of December they have advanced the prices on tin plates \$1.25 per box, above 45 per cent. Even at this advance they are curtailing the production to such an extent as to be unable to fill orders, at least so claiming. The closing down and moving of the machinery from the two mills in Baltimore throws hundreds of men out of employment, yet our city consumes over half of the tin plate used by canners in the entire country. The injustice of laying tribute upon the people by such high handed methods appeals to every citizen to use his best endeavors upon the next Congress to repeal all duties upon tin plate."

We have passed the state where a high protective tariff is to be maintained upon the manufactured products in competition with our own mills and shops. The Chicago Herald makes a safe proposition, and one which cannot well be refuted when it declares that "Wherever the protective tariff enhances the price of the product of a trust to the American consumer it should be reduced or removed entirely." Industries are to be protected until able to sustain themselves, and beyond that it is neither safe, wise, just nor consistent to go. What the future is to bring no man can tell. The legitimacy of the steps taken being apparent, a fine distinction is called for to determine when legal restraint can be applied. The legislation first to be attempted in seeking relief from the evil of trusts is to remove all measures of protection against competition at home and abroad, and for this there must be a strong demand. Beyond that the organization of capital to protect against increased prices will be one of the certainties wherever an attempt is made to control the field and force the issue. Legislation against trusts has thus far, says a writer, been chiefly confined to 'Austria, where a bill has recently been submitted to the Diet advocating state jurisdiction and aiming at the prevention of such trusts as may restrict the sale of goods on which indirect duties are levied by the state for the purpose of revenue. Hungary is now occupied with a similar measure.

The other countries of Europe have as yet done little or nothing to define the judicial status of trusts. In England there are no penal ordinances against them, and the civil law confines itself to declaring their contracts null and void whenever the latter conflict with the freedom of trade or commerce. Such a proceeding, however, would only be necessary in those instances where a certain branch of industry had become completely monopolized by a trust; and matters have not yet gone thus far in England nor on the continent."

There is little question but they carry within themselves the seeds of destruction and that through overcapitalization the load will cause, in the not far distant future, a decided break in financial circles. The situation demands increased activity on the part of the public, not alone by resolutions, for these are never self-enacting, but to protect by legislation against abuses and usurpation of power. Those outside are not going to remain idle and allow the trust to monopolize the opportunities of this great country.

WHAT SHOULD A MINISTER PREACH ABOUT?

In view of the discussion in these columns touching the subject of Sunday observance, and the causes for non-attendance upon church services, the following interesting paper, read by Mrs. A. B. Farnham before the Kennebec County Congregational Conference at Hallowell, will be read with interest. The County Conference is about the only opportunity which the layman has for getting even with the minister. For fifty-two Sundays in the year we sit meekly in the pews and are instructed, reproved, exhorted, led or driven, according to the disposition of the occupant of the pulpit; and we have no means of self-defense except going to sleep, which is not easy if our shepherd is given to a noisy discharge of his office. But at the Conference the layman has his innings, so to speak, and it is the minister's turn to go to sleep if he can.

It is easier to tell what a minister should not preach, than what he should; just as it is easier for the average sinner to find fault than to praise. It is trite to say that it is impossible to please every body, and yet there have been sermons preached to which there was not a dissenting voice. This result generally follows from two causes: Either the sermon was so abstract as to touch no one, or else the preacher was so filled and directed by the Holy Spirit that his words went home like burning arrows to the heart of every one, and they were silenced by conviction. We hear much of the first style of preaching nowadays, but too little of the last.

There should be some discernible difference between a sermon and a graduation essay, but it is too often imperceptible. How many sermons we have heard, through which the rippling brooks gently pured, little snow-white lambs tripped lightly across the landscape, and fleecy clouds floated overhead in a sky of celestial blue! Such discourses bear a startling resemblance to "Night Brings out the Stars," "Home Influence," and "Per Aspera Ad Astra," and seem ever to exhale a subtle aroma of the white Swiss and ribboned diplomas. The writers of such sermons would be better employed in selling tape and safety pins behind a dry goods counter, than in the work of the ministry.

Punny stories and slang should find no place in a sermon. There is a dignity about the pulpit which should be respected, and the preacher should honor his office. Satire is often needed. Christ mercilessly attacked the evils of His day with all the weapons at hand, and His followers must do the same. A flash of wit often brings home a point, and captures the wandering thought. But the story which raises a laugh is out of place. Anything like buffoonery should be avoided, and the temptation to be "smart," which seems to be one of the besetting sins of the nineteenth century.

From the teachings of Christ we learn the value of illustrations. He illuminated His discourses with pictures drawn from all the world about Him, and they went home to the hearts of His hearers. The preacher of to-day will find that this method of preaching has lost none of its effectiveness, if rightly used. But it has degenerated too much into a mere telling of stories, drawn from "The Parables of the Kingdom," "Side Lights on Sermons," "Arrows tipped with Fire," or some other of those miscellany of "helps" with which the study of the lazy minister overflows. The sermons of Henry Ward Beecher afford many examples of the true method of illustration, drawn from nature:

"Sermons likenesses, books in the running brooks." A comparison with the seasonal efforts of the editor of the Christian Herald, filled with blood-curdling tales of the yellow journal type, will show the difference. But don't

work a good illustration to death. Give it a vacation once in a while; you feel the need of one yourself! We have all heard stories made over and over to fit different subjects until the original texture was hard to find; albeit in the minds of their owners they were like the old man's trousers that were "just half worn out when the patches met," good for several more campaigns.

Exclamation points and verbal hysterics never made a sermon; shouting never saved a soul, nor can intellectual pyrotechnics light the way to heaven. A minister of my acquaintance used to tell a story of a friend of his, a very popular preacher, who spoke a great deal extempore. Some one asked him if he was ever at a loss what to say. "Oh, yes," he replied, "and then I just get right outside the pulpit and shake my fists and roar, and it has a wonderful effect upon the audience."

It is of no use to hammer your flock because they do not all believe as you do. Christ said, "Feed my sheep," but he did not say anything about rapping them on the head if they would not eat. Perhaps they may not like the diet. There is always a possibility that some of the new ideas, upon which you insist so strenuously, may prove to be wrong when tested by the lapse of years, so do not work too hard trying to cram them down the throats of your reluctant flock.

Some of you are enthusiastic students of the Higher Criticism, and you are grieved because a few of us old fogies do not rise up and hail you as the John Baptist of a new dispensation, the angels sent to proclaim a new and diviner gospel. But you have no idea how little we are interested in that sort of thing. It makes small difference whether the whale swallowed Jonah, or Jonah swallowed the whale; whether Balaam's ass spoke, or the sun stood still upon Gibeon, or Esau really sold his birthright for a dish of bean porridge. Believing or not believing any of these things never saved a soul. But it does matter that our faith in the Bible is gradually being worn away, until the dear old book seems to some more like a collection of fairy tales than like the Word of God.

The very mention of Noah or Abraham seems to have an effect on some ministers like the waving of a red rag before a bull—straightaway they begin to bellow and paw up the ground. If you think the Higher Criticism is a good thing, keep it to yourself. A church that has been fed on this kind of diet can generally be recognized by the way its bones rattle in the prayer meetings: thin, very thin.

I suppose that I shall stand in danger of being mobbed if I say that church finances have no place in the pulpit. Perhaps I may be alone in this opinion, but just ask the average laymen. Alms the finances of the church to a prominent audience on Sunday morning, is too much like scolding children before company. If your church has a debt, why open the closet door and show the skeleton to the world? Why wash the family linen in public? The church feels ashamed, but they also feel indignant. It may be the best plan, since nearly all ministers do it, it must be, presumably; but as I heard a church member say not long ago, "It gives me a cold chill to hear a minister talk money matters in the pulpit."

Missions? By all means, and often, if you can make the subject interesting. But dry sermons on missions close up the pocket books tighter than before.

Temperance? Politics? Questions of the day? Yes, occasionally. It depends upon what you consider the work of the pulpit. If it differs in no way from the lecture platform, by all means let us have frequent sermons on so-called "popular themes." The pulpit must be an educator, but for our spiritual rather than our intellectual life. Too often we have the same feeling when coming from church as in coming from our literary club. Our minds are fed, but our souls are starving. We would rather be led aside from the world and its problems, to rest and talk with Jesus. "The world is too much with us, late and soon."

Many of us like Martha, "careful and troubled about many things." We have little time to sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to His voice, have you no message for us, you who in the quiet of the study have mused on heavenly things? Has He told you nothing of himself which you can give to us? You have been apart with Him in the mountain; we are struggling in the valley below; our lives choked with the thorns and briars of our daily cares. We need to be led out into the light. Preach Christ. We are starving for a message from Him.

We can read about National Expansion and the silver problem in the newspapers. We have it dinned in our ears six days in the week, why give it to us on Sunday? Our souls are in no wise helped by the knowledge that Moses did not write the Pentateuch, or that the book of Ruth is an allegory. We want something to help us live the everyday life, and meet the everyday temptations, and textual criticism or political theories can never avail. What then we ask for, bread and salt!

The true pastor knows the needs of his flock. He knows his sheep, and he knows of them, and he bears them on his heart in preparing his sermon. Ask yourselves, when your brilliant intellectual effort has received its final gloss, and lies shining like an ice crystal on the study table, "What is there in this sermon to help Brother S., who is in business trouble? To comfort Mrs. A., who has lost her only son? To lead to Christ those lost and lonely children whose hearts are tender from late sorrow?" Does the ice begin to melt under these questions? Christ was transfigured upon the mountain and talked with heavenly visitants, but He came down into the plain and healed the suffering. So must His ministers come down from their mount of transfiguration, to be intellectual or spiritual, and give the helping hand and the loving heart to the common people below.

The best medicines only should be used in sickness. The price is of secondary consideration; but at Partridge's old and reliable drug store, opposite the post-office, they sell the best medicines at the lowest prices, often lower than people pay in some places for drugs of inferior quality.

BEECHAM'S PILLS cure Sick Headache.

City News.

—The best wishes of our citizens will follow Judge W. P. Whitehouse and wife on their three-months European trip.

—The reduction in the rate of taxation by the city fathers will be good news for the children who must pay the bills.

—The fire on Sunday, on Capitol street, in the buildings of Mrs. Sarah Waldron, was discovered in season to save the house and all, but the stable was destroyed.

—Mr. Roscoe Tracy brings to our table the product of his hen pen in the form of an egg 6½ inches and weighing 3½ ounces. So long as eggs sell by count such examples will please the purchaser.

—Mr. C. F. Fletcher of Augusta seems to be the champion vegetable grower of this section. His early peas planted on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, April 15th were ready for his table June 15th, and Monday the 19th, he brought the first to market. This is good farming.

—The Farmer office has been made bright and fragrant by a large basket of beautiful flowers from the rich garden of the Misses Eaton, on Chestnut street. These ladies remember old friends and the hearts of the Farmer force were made glad by their thoughtfulness.

—Do our city residents appreciate the efforts of the wide awake farmers in the vicinity who are now supplying the market with fresh strawberries, peas, cucumbers, beets and other vegetables? Only by skill and energy can these crops be grown to maturity at this time of year and the quality is far above the goods shipped in.

—The large audience in attendance on the graduating exercises of Cony High School, at City Hall, Friday evening, grew enthusiastic over the essays by the graduates. Every part was well taken, and evidenced much ability and sharp study. No wonder Prof. Cook grew that evening, for behind the 10 who had passed were 19 more, every one well worthy a place on the programme. It was a sight to gladden the heart of teacher, director and friend of the city and the young. In conferring the diplomas, Mr. Manley, who has been connected with the school from the date of its establishment, paid a fitting tribute to Prof. Cook and his assistants, as well as to the young ladies and gentlemen. His words found a ready response in the hearts of the large audience when he said: "The present standing of this school is due to the efforts of its principal and assistants. Prof. Cook is a rare man. He is a born teacher. His upright life, his high character, his gentlemanly deportment, his courteous manners, his firm discipline, his entering into the life of the pupils, have won for him their esteem and affection. He has the great faculty of knowing what ought to be taught, and imparting his knowledge to those who seek his instruction, declining tempting offers from other sections, in order to continue his work in the school to which he is devoted."

The speakers and subjects were as follows: Salutatory, "Shall we adopt a Colonial System?" Grant Pierce; "St. Cecilia," Lillian Evelyn Bascom; "Maine's Contribution to Literature," Ethel Margaret Partridge; "Trans-Isthmian Canal," John Joseph Ryan; Women of Shakespeare, Annie Margaret Clancy; "Rudyard Kipling," Annie Louise Jones; "American Antiquity," J. Sturgis Bradbury; "Historic Girls," Alice Harlow Johnson; "Cyrano de Bergerac," William Caldwell Titcomb; "Valdettory," A Daughter of Old Concord, May Morrill Badger; Awarding diplomas, Hon. Joseph H. Manley.

County News.

—Waterville city officers have established the "curfew bell."

—Winthrop is making preparations for one of the biggest Fourth of July celebrations ever known in its history.

—J. L. Thompson of Hallowell is now busy moving his newspaper plant to Hartland, where he proposes to run a weekly paper to be called the Hartland Commercial.

—Mr. Daniel W. Simpson, Winslow, formerly in the employ of the Maine Central, being off the back of his head with a shot gun, at his home back of the Hollingsworth & Whitney Company. The cause was ill health.

—A very heavy shower passed over Kennebec county, Wednesday afternoon the 14th, doing damage to a number of buildings in different sections. It was most severe in Litchfield, Sidney, Readfield and Vassalboro.

—In tearing away the walls of the Kennebec county court room, last week, a piece of pine board was found upon which was drawn specifications of the east, west and north walls of the court house which was built in 1829. Every stone was above. The diagram had remained in obscurity since the erection of the building.

—The funeral services of the late, Andrew J. Libby were held, Sunday afternoon, at 1:30 o'clock, from the home of his son Bert, on Libby Hill, Oakland. The remains, accompanied by relatives and friends of the deceased, were brought, Sunday forenoon, by special train from Embden. Prof. A. L. Lane of Colby University, conducted the services.

—Another shooting affair at Togus Tuesday night, caused by a fight, with rum as the motive power, adds further disgrace to the record. Kenneth, court clerk, was making. Jack Corey shot Augustus Austin in the leg and while the wound is a dangerous one, amputation may not be necessary.

—A large crowd was in attendance at Lake Umbagog, Saturday, with little entertainment. The great battle of Manila, advertised, did not come up to people's expectations.

—Two young men who went trout fishing early Sunday morning, paid for their pleasure dearly when arraigned in court.—Mrs. Bowker from Lewiston, who is visiting at her father's, Mr. Daley's, had a paralytic shock last Friday evening. She is slowly recovering.—Miss Fillebrown from Madison, who is in the employ of C. W. Record's Jewelry Company, went home Monday, on a vacation of two months.—The village schools will close next week, with an exhibition.—The Rev. A. M. Bradley will take a vacation during the month of July.

BEECHAM'S PILLS cure Sick Headache.

"Little Strokes"
Fell Great Oaks.

The giants of the forest must yield last to the continual blows of the woodman. When the human blood has been clogged and impure the little drops of Hood's Sarsaparilla, properly taken, will fell the oak of bad blood.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Never Disappoints.

Health Prescription.

R. F. "One bottle cures."

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